Docket No.: 21604-00022-US1

(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Naoki Kubota

Application No.: 10/536,837 Confirmation No.: 6541

Filed: May 31, 2005 Art Unit: 3676

For: HINGE DEVICE AND ELECTRONIC Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

INSTRUMENT USING THE HINGE DEVICE

STATUS INQUIRY

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

It is respectfully requested that the attorney named below be advised of the status of the above-identified application. Please advise us of when we might expect to receive an Office Action from the Patent and Trademark Office.

Applicant believes no fee is due with this response. However, if a fee is due, please charge our Deposit Account No. 22-0185, under Order No. 21604-00022-US1 from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

Dated: November 20, 2006 Respectfully submitted,

Electronic signature: /Brian J. Hairston/ Brian J. Hairston Registration No.: 46,750 CONNOLLY BOVE LODGE & HUTZ LLP 1990 M Street, N.W., Suite 800 Washington, DC 20036 (202) 331-7111 (202) 293-6229 (Fax) Attorney for Applicant